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## FOREST RESEARCH NOTES

U.S.DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE...
FOREST SERVICE
CALIFORNIA FOREST AND RANGE
EXPERIMENT STATION \*

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Research Note No. 29

March 15, 1943

## PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF PRODUCTION OF LUMBER, LATH, AND SHINGLES

## IN CALIFORNIA, 1942

In cooperation with the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce, and the War Production Board, the Forest Service presents herewith its annual preliminary statement of lumber production in California and Nevada. Since this statement is based upon incomplete returns it will differ somewhat from subsequent final production statistics to be compiled by the Bureau of the Census.

The estimate of 1942 production shows that the lumber industry in California, despite adverse effects of manpower and equipment shortages and bad weather in the spring of 1942, responded to the unprecedented wartime demand for lumber by producing only a fraction less than was sawed in the all-time peak year of 1941.

The production estimated in tables 1, 2, and 3 is based upon reports from 207 of an estimated total of 239 active sawmills in the California pine region and on 59 of an estimated total of 75 active mills in the redwood region. The coverage was such that in the pine region the sampling error of estimated total production, expressed in percentage and based upon + one standard error, was 0.2, while the corresponding error in the redwood region was 0.5.

For the entire State and all species, the estimated production of 2,322,170 M feet b.m. (table 1) is only 0.4 percent less than total State-wide production in 1941. With the exception of redwood, Douglas fir, and white fir there was a decrease in the cut of all species ranging from a 2.7 percent decline in incense cedar to a 19.3 percent decline in Sitka spruce. The most significant decreases were the 3.7 percent decline in ponderosa pine and the 12.6 percent decline in sugar pine. Although the production of redwood rose 1.1 percent from 1941, the most outstanding increases were a rise of 40 million feet in the cut of Douglas fir, equivalent to a 16.2 percent increase, and a rise of 30 million feet in production of white fir, equivalent to a 30.1 percent increase. The estimated production of lath and shingles declined 5.2 percent and 35.7 percent, respectively. Lumber stocks dropped from 846,854 M feet b.m. on December 31, 1941, to 616,441

<sup>\*</sup> MAINTAINED AT BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA, IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.

M feet b.m. on December 31, 1942, or a decrease of 27.2 percent. It is estimated that there were 103 idle sawmills in the State in 1942, most of which were of low potential output.

In the pine region the estimated lumber production in 1942 was 1,730,931 M feet b.m. (table 2), or approximately 3 percent below the output in 1941. There were declines in the output of ponderosa pine, sugar pine, incense cedar, and big tree, but increases in the production of Douglas fir and white fir. The sampling error for species production was less than 2 percent for all species except incense cedar and big tree. Lumber stocks declined about 140 million feet in 1942. The 44 mills which cut more than 10 million feet apiece produced 86.8 percent of the total lumber sawed in the region, whereas the 131 mills producing less than 1 million feet each cut only 2.1 percent of the regional production.

In the redwood region the estimated 1942 lumber production of 591,239 M feet b.m. (table 3) was approximately 9 percent greater than the 1941 output. The most outstanding development was the increase of roughly 30 million feet in the production of Douglas fir. The cut of redwood rose about 5 million feet, and the production of white fir rose slightly. Other species showed decreases. The sampling error was 0.7 percent for redwood and 2.4 percent for Douglas fir. Lumber stocks decreased about 85 million feet. The 9 mills cutting more than 10 million feet apiece produced 88 percent of the regional cut, whereas the 38 mills cutting less than 1 million feet each produced 2.3 percent of the regional cut.

Table 1.- Production of lumber, by kind of wood, and of lath and shingles Celifornia and Nevade. 1/, 1941 and 1942

	Tumber	Tumber production (M feet.	M feet. b.m.	, m	
Species	19/1	- T-		mate)	Change in 1942 from 1941
	: Quantity	: Percent :	Quantity	: Percent :	Percent
Mills sawing 50 M feet or more					
Fonderosa pine	1,177,513		1,133,565	8.87	7.2
Redwood 2/	455,1449	19.5	160,631	19.8	+ 1.1
Sugar pine	299,378		261,661	11.3	- 12.6
Douglas fir	248,272		288,596	12.4	+ 16.2
White fir	100,965	4.57	131,331	5.7	+ 30.1
Incense cedar	36,787	1.6	35,791	1.5	- 2.7
Fort Orford cedar	6,195	0.3	5,132	0.2	- 17.2
Sitka spruce	4,582	o.0	3,695	0.2	- 19.3
Alder	1,501	0.1	1,176	0.1	9.6
Other species $\frac{2}{2}$	598	+0.0	0	0.0	-100.0
Wills sawing less than 50 W feet					
All species	853	+0.0	591	+0.0	- 30.7
Total					
All species, all mills	2,331,893	100.0	2,322,170	100.0	7.0 -
Lath (thousands)	17,175		16,280		
Shingles (squares) 4/	100,937		64,933		- 35.7
Stocks of lumber, Dec. 31	846,854		616,441		- 27.2

1/ Combined to avoid disclosing output of individual establishments.

2/ Includes big tree (Sequoia gigantea) in pine region.

3/ Hemlock, western red cedar, oak.

4/ Includes data for shakes reported as such.



Table 2.- Estimated production of lumber, by kind of wood and class of mill, and of lath and shingles California Pine Region 1/, 1942

	: Lath :Shingles	)	Squares	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	293	169	592	1,054	
	Lath:		M pcs.	6,455	1,770	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,225	
	Lumber on hand	1 : total :	MBM	138,492	142,659	92,170	54,104	10,004	18,804	1,374	1,051	3%		458,694	
	Lumber	Jan.1,1942	MBM	188,590	180,671	110,921	61,841	14,531	37,630	3,214	1,875	31		599,304	
:Sampling:	error2/of :	total :	Percent	0	0	0	0	0	5.6	5.0	3.7	5.4	0	0.2	
0.7		Percent		39.8	23.1	15.1	8	0.4	7.1	1.3	0.8	+0.0		100.0	
	6	Tota Quantity		669,789	399,782	261,542	152,962	68,527	123,209	22,275	14,430	505		1,730,931	0.2
		Big :							对	32	171			237	20.2
- 1	(m leet, b	Incense		13,451	5,531	5,222	248	7,428	3,252	3/15	317	ω		35,799	t, 2 -
	sawed (III	White	,	30,696	44,938	27,430	10,345	9,114	4,516	1,523	1,321	22		129,905	9.0
	Lumber	Douglas:		24,517	28,165	51,557	56,626	5,044	25,327	6,333	2,451	109		170,129	1.7
		Sugar pine		104,288	189,46	26,511	14,149	11,124	9,151.	757	966	56		261,683	† <b>7•</b> 0
		: Ponderosa:		514,747	226,1467	150,822	101,594	35,817	80,929	13,288	9,174	240	•	1,133,178	0.3
	Active:Sampled:		No.	7	12	13	12	10	77	577	63	19	4	2073/	stimated (Percent)
	Active:		No.	7	12	13	12	10	50	31	77	23	4	2393/	Ψ
	ss of mill		:	and over)	to 50 MM)	to 25 MM)	5 to 15 MM)	0	to 5 MM)	M to 1 mm)	to 500 M)	50 M)		S S S S	Sampling error $\frac{2}{4}$ of total production.
1	Class	1		(50 MM :	(25 MM	(15 MM	MM (1)	(5 MM to	(1 IMM to	(500 M	(50 M ta	(Under 50 M)	Shingle	All classes	Samplin total

1/ See footnote 1, table 3.  $\overline{2}$ / Sampling errors are based on + one standard error.  $\overline{2}$ / Number of idle mills, estimated to be 84 (including one shingle mill), not included in totals.

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Table 5.- Estimated production of lumber, by kind of wood and class of mill, and of lath and chingles called 1/, 1942

	: :Active	: :Active:Sampled:			Lumb	er sawed	Lumber sawed (M feet, b.m.)	m.)			ν. Φ.	Sampling error2/of	Lumber	Lumber on hand		
Class of mill	:mills	: mills	••	••	Port:			••		E-		:estimated :			: Lath	: Lath :Shingles
	•• ••	•• ••	: Redwood	:Douglas:C	:Douglas:Orford:Sitka : fir : cedar:spruce:	•• ••	White :Ponderosa:Sugar: fir : pine : pine:	Sugar: pine:	Ą	Ouantity :F	Percent:p	total .	: total : lotal : lder: Ouantity :Percent:production:Jan.1,1942:Dec.31,1942:	Dec. 31,1942		
α	No.	No.										Percent	MEM	MBM	M pes.	Squares
(50 MM and over)	К	п	322,937	50,554						373,491	63.2	0	185,766	123,605	5,403	201,102
(25 MM to 50 MM)	М	М	84,054	8,791		692				93,537	15.8	0	36,630	23,146	2,643	8,504
(10  MM to  25  MM)	К	20	25,939	24,130	2,376	156		<b>†</b>		53,205	0.6	0	15,280	8,200	0	0
(5 WM to 10 MM)	77	7	12,613	10,989 4,902	7,905					28,504	7.8	0	3,142	1,741	0	439
(1 MM to 5 MM)	13	6	10,061	17,206	230 1,320		1/4/4			28,961	6.4	10.9	1,976	985	0	0
(500 M to 1 MM)	12	10	2,487	7/15			522		820	8,571	1.5	3.0	134	56	0	1,222
(50 M to 500 M)	23	19	2,303	2,164			61		356	7887	0.8	6.1	7/6	7	6	टांग, दा
(Under 50 M)	М	т	ω	78						98	+0.0	0	0	0	0	0
Shingle	11	5										35.4				17,600
All classes	753/	265/	707,097	118,654	118,654 5,132 3,696 1,448	1,448	727	7	1,176	591,239	100.0	0.5	243,022	157,747	8,055	62,879
Sampling error <sup>2</sup> / of total production.	υ	stimated (Percent)	2.0	2.4	2.5 19.8	/17	4.52	主	/50	0.5						
				-		is p			b.	-	Ţ,	3.6			f	,

<sup>1/</sup> Redwood region includes counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, western Mendocino, Sonoma, Napa, Marin, Santa Clara, San Mateo, Monterey, and Santa Cruz. Remainder of State considered the pine region.

<sup>2/</sup> Sampling errors are based on + one standard error.

| Number of idle mills, estimated to be 21 (including one shingle mill), not included in totals.
| From the calculated for sugar pine and white fir because sampled mills in classes 0-3 did not report cut of these species.
| No sampling error for alder because all mills cutting alder included in sample.

